

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is responsible for managing the Hanford Site's cultural and historic resources. To do this, the Department's Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) maintains the Hanford Cultural and Historic Resources Program (the program). The program ensures that cultural resources entrusted to DOE are managed with vision, leadership, and responsibility.

This management plan provides the DOE-RL Hanford Cultural and Historic Resources Program goals; the facilities; the cultural and historical setting and associated cultural resources; the program accomplishments, methods, and procedures; and administrative details. Because accomplishments and requirements change regularly, the plan will be updated as necessary.

This introduction provides a brief overview of Hanford's cultural resources; the history, status, and direction of the program; how the program is technically structured to achieve the cultural resource management (CRM) goals; and how the DOE-RL program manager will administratively meet the CRM goals.

This plan follows the guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Policy and Assistance in its document, *Environmental Guidelines for Development of Cultural Resource Management Plans* (DOE 1995). The plan varies slightly from the recommended outline to accommodate the program and resources at Hanford. This plan will be reviewed and updated periodically, as appropriate.

1.1 HANFORD'S CULTURAL RESOURCES

Hanford's cultural resources are diverse, ranging from early prehistoric times to the atomic age. The Site contains a fragile and extensive record of human occupation documenting a series of overlapping cultural landscapes stretching thousands of years into the past. Each layer of history tells the story of how people have used the area. Archaeological remains combine with oral histories and traditional cultural places to document through time the changes in people's way of life on the Hanford Site.

The Native American landscape includes mythological, religious, and subsistence resources and a rich record of archaeological sites associated with prehistoric villages and activities. Food and medicinal plants important to Native Americans are dispersed across the landscape. Sacred and ceremonial places, many of which will never be revealed to non-native people, exist on the Site. Such traditional cultural places, together with archaeological sites and artifacts, are highly valued by Native Americans. In the traditional world, past, present, and future coexist in the foods that are eaten and the ceremonies that are performed. In fact, the customs and rituals surrounding the use of culturally recognized resources often constitute the core of the community's traditional cultural values. Examples of important sites include Gable Mountain, a sacred mountain highly revered by Native Americans in this region; Locke Island, an ancient fishing and village site; and areas where certain plants grow that are used by Native Americans for medicine.

Resources relating to western settlement and agriculture largely characterize the pre-Hanford historic landscape. From the 1850s through 1943, Euro-Americans farmed and raised livestock, mined, and built settlements throughout the Hanford Site. Historic archaeological resources mark the locations where gold

mining, stock raising, farming, and natural gas drilling took place from the 1850s to 1943. With the exception of six structures, which include the Hanford High School and the White Bluffs Bank, all other remnants of this pre-Hanford period have been removed. Pre-1943 cultural resources include not only archaeological remains such as old farmsteads but also the oral histories of early settlers and pioneers who called Hanford home.

After 1943, the transformation of an isolated agricultural region into a world-renowned nuclear research center again changed the nature of cultural resources on the Hanford Site. The built environment stands as mute testimony to the pioneering achievements in science and engineering that took place there. Because of the importance of its wartime mission to world history, Hanford's Manhattan Project/Cold War cultural landscape is critical for the interpretation of this time period. B Reactor where the plutonium for the atom bomb was made, the 300 Area where nuclear research was conducted, and the 200 Areas where the plutonium was processed are a few of the historic remains from the Manhattan Project/Cold War landscape.

1.2 HANFORD CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Cultural resource management at the DOE-managed portions of the Hanford Site is conducted under the auspices of the DOE-RL Hanford Cultural and Historic Resources Program. Program activities include performing cultural resource reviews for all federal undertakings conducted at Hanford in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106; monitoring Site conditions to ensure that important cultural resources are protected; maintaining a database of Site records, project records, and regional ethnohistory; maintaining archaeological and historical collections; and any other activities necessary to meet the minimum cultural resource-related requirements.

The DOE-RL Cultural and Historic Resources Program Manager oversees all program activities. Most technical activities are currently performed by contractors, in keeping with DOE's general approach to meeting all of its mission. Section 5.8.1 identifies the current contractor structure of the DOE-RL Hanford Cultural and Historic Resources Program and the specific staff performing the work.

The DOE-RL Hanford Cultural and Historic Resources Program has been managing cultural resources on the Hanford Site since 1987. In 1999, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service took over portions of the Hanford Site and managed those portions according to their own methods and procedures. Before 1987, DOE did not have an active cultural resource program but rather funded various cultural resource efforts to meet specific needs. Those activities are described in DOE (1997b).

During the DOE-RL Hanford Cultural and Historic Resources Program's first decade, emphasis was on getting the program established. Activities included producing a cultural resource management plan (Chatters 1989); establishing a cultural resource review process for all federal undertakings conducted at Hanford in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106; gaining an understanding of the cultural resources located at Hanford and their importance (DOE 1997b); and acquiring the archaeological collections that had been recovered from the Hanford Site after the government took possession in 1943. With these accomplishments made, program activities in recent years have focused on repatriating human remains from the collections; developing a site database; increasing tribal and interested party involvement; and developing a long-term monitoring and protection

program to ensure that significant cultural resources are managed and maintained in a way that considers the preservation of their historic, archaeological, architectural, and cultural value.

1.3 OUTLINE OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The remainder of the Hanford Cultural Resources Management Plan is organized as follows:

- Section 2 includes a discussion of the short- and long-term goals of the DOE-RL Hanford Cultural and Historic Resources Program
- Section 3 provides an overview of past cultural resource management accomplishments at Hanford
- Section 4 discusses the methods that are used in managing and protecting cultural resources at Hanford
- Section 5 provides the specific cultural resources-related procedures that are in place at Hanford
- Section 6 provides references cited in the plan.